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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Letter dated 3 February 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I should be grateful if you would have the attached texts of two statements made by His Excellency Mr. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, in his capacity as current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity on the situation in Togo (see annex I) and the situation in Zaire (see annex II) issued as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity".

(Signed) Kéba Birane CISSE

ANNEX I

Statement by the President of Senegal in his capacity as current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity on the situation in Togo

The events in Togo are a source of deep concern to the Organization of African Unity, one of whose essential missions is to promote peace and harmony among and within its member countries.

Unless steps are taken, these events threaten to do irreparable harm to the efforts made by the sons of Togo to lead that country to democracy.

Looking beyond Togo, it is the countries of the subregion, which comprise the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), that would suffer in a political climate of instability and fratricidal violence.

It is with full awareness of this situation that we support the initiatives of the current Chairman of ECOWAS, President Nicéphore Soglo, and the entire Community to overcome the crisis and to bring about a resumption of dialogue and cooperation among Togo's political leaders.

In my capacity as current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, I should like to appeal to the patriotism and sense of responsibility of all Togolese political leaders so that they may overcome their differences and follow the only valid path for Togo and for all other African countries, which is the way of democratic dialogue.

In so doing, they will create an environment that will allow them to move forward, peacefully, along the route to democracy, in national unity.

For my part, I stand ready to join the efforts of OAU with those of all who display good will, and above all with ECOWAS, in the search for peace and national understanding in Togo.

ANNEX II

Statement by the President of Senegal in his capacity as current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity on the situation in Zaire

In the past few days, the situation in Zaire has noticeably deteriorated, entailing heavy loss of human life and physical destruction.

The initiatives undertaken in recent months by a number of countries and well-intentioned parties with a view to resolving the crisis and restoring an atmosphere of trust that would facilitate a peaceful return to democracy have failed.

We note with regret that the growing troubles in Zaire contain the seeds of a tragedy that would serve neither the interests of that country nor those of Africa.

It is for this reason that I should like, in my capacity as current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, to appeal urgently to all Zairian political leaders to open a frank and sincere political dialogue based on respect for the higher interests of the nation and the Zairian people.

The progress our Zairian brothers have made in democratizing their country must be consolidated. The Organization of African Unity is prepared to help by endeavouring to further the concerted efforts begun by the Zairians themselves so that violence may yield to dialogue and cooperation which can only benefit the Zairian people.